

authorizes \$10 million for each of fiscal years 2010 to 2015 to fund the education of mariners, and sustain our vital maritime industry.

H.R. 2651 also requires the Secretary of Transportation to establish a maritime recruitment, training, and retention grant program. The Secretary is directed to consult with representatives of the maritime industry, labor organizations, other governmental entities and maritime industry interests. This program will be imperative to the maritime industry in recruiting new mariners, keeping current mariners, and assisting them with training and upgrading their licenses. H.R. 2651 authorizes \$10 million for each of fiscal years 2010 to 2015 to fund grants to support this program.

The nation's maritime cargo volumes are expected to double by 2020. As waterborne commerce expands in the United States, there is a great need to meet the labor demands that the continued growth in the maritime industry is expected to create. H.R. 2651 creates mechanisms to ensure that our nation will be well equipped to handle the welcomed maritime growth.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2651.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2651, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GEORGE P. KAZEN FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2423) to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1300 Victoria Street in Laredo, Texas, as the "George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse", and to designate the jury room in that Federal building and United States courthouse as the "Marcel C. Notzon II Jury Room", as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2423

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. BUILDING DESIGNATION.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1300 Victoria Street in Laredo, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building and United States courthouse referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the first day on which George P. Kazen is no longer serving as a Federal judge.

□ 1430

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Hawaii.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 2423.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Hawaii?

There was no objection.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2423, as amended, is a bill to designate the federal building and United States courthouse located at 1300 Victoria St. in Laredo, Texas as the George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse.

Congressman CUELLAR introduced this bill, which has bipartisan support. Judge Kazen has served the people of the southern judicial district of Texas with great distinction and dedication since 1979. He is a graduate of the University of Texas, and the University of Texas Law School. After serving in private practice in Laredo, Texas he was nominated to the federal bench by President Jimmy Carter in 1979. He served in the southern district of Texas and served as Chief Judge in that district from 1996 until 2003.

Judge Kazen was also very active in his community, serving as a member in the U.S. Air Force, founding the Laredo Legal Aid Society, and serving in numerous capacities in civic organizations in South Texas. Judge Kazen served as President of the Laredo Civic Music Association, the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Laredo, the St. Augustine-Ursuline School Board, and as a member of the Laredo Community College Board of Trustees.

It is both fitting and proper to honor Judge Kazen's distinguished public career with this designation. I support H.R. 2423 as amended and urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the author of the bill, Mr. CUELLAR of Texas.

Mr. CUELLAR. Thank you very much for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions of a fine public servant in Laredo, Texas, Judge George P. Kazen. This is an individual that has dedicated the majority of his life to upholding the justice system in south Texas.

In 1979, President Jimmy Carter appointed Judge George P. Kazen to be a United States district judge. For four decades, he served south Texas as a tireless advocate for fairness under the law. From 1996 to 2003, he was the chief judge of the United States Southern District, which includes the areas of Houston, Galveston, Victoria, Laredo, Corpus Christi, McAllen and Brownsville in Texas. Judge Kazen is also a

JAG officer for the United States Air Force, and in 1965 he received the United States Air Force Commendation Medal.

Judge Kazen is married to Barbara Ann and they have four children. He is, without a doubt, a selfless public servant who has been a tremendous credit to the city of Laredo and the State of Texas and our great Nation.

I also want to recognize Judge Kazen's Federal magistrate, the Honorable Marcel Notzen. Since 1967, Marcel Notzen, the magistrate, served for four decades in front and behind the bench, as an attorney, as a law partner, and most recently as a U.S. magistrate for the Southern District. Judge Notzen is married to Nora Lee, and they have six children.

It is with great pride that I authored this legislation, H.R. 2423, to name the United States Courthouse located at 1300 Victoria Street in Laredo, Texas, as the George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse in honor of George Kazen. It is also my legislative intent, Mr. Speaker, to name the jury room in the United States courthouse as the Marcel C. Notzen, II Jury Room. I think this is a way to thank these two individuals who have worked so hard for their Nation as judges.

I want to thank all of my Texas colleagues for helping me recognize these exceptional individuals. By recognizing these individuals, their contributions will be remembered and they will continue to inspire those individuals who follow their lead in preserving the American justice system.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, after hearing the eloquent explanation from the sponsor of the legislation, I thank him for his leadership on this bill and many others.

This bill would designate a Federal building and courthouse in Laredo, Texas as the "George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse."

Judge Kazen has served on the District Court for the Southern District of Texas since 1979.

From 1996 to 2003, Judge Kazen served as chief judge and, earlier this year he assumed senior status.

Prior to his appointment to the federal bench, Judge Kazen was in the private practice of law.

Earlier in his career he served in the JAG Corp as a U.S. Air Force Captain and worked as a briefing attorney for the Texas Supreme Court.

He received both his bachelor's degree and law degree from the University of Texas.

His career demonstrates his dedication to public service and the law.

I have no objections to the passage of this legislation.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2423, as amended, a bill to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1300 Victoria Street in Laredo, Texas as the "George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse".